

5 I claim:

1. A slide for supporting a user, such slide having a base and a top surface to facilitate sliding thereon, said top surface being characterized as having a low friction, durable sheeting layer which enables the user to traverse thereon both when said top surface is wet and dry.

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2. The slide of claim 1 wherein said top surface is supported by said base, a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity-induced sliding on said top surface.

15 3. The slide of claim 1 wherein said top surface is bouncy when traversed thereon by a user.

4. The slide of claim 3 wherein said bouncy surface is provided by said base which contains foam padding.

20 5. The slide of claim 1 wherein bouncy surface is provided by said base which comprises an air inflatable membrane.

25 6. The slide of claim 5 further comprising an air blower for maintaining inflation of said base.

7. The slide of claim 5 wherein said slide is portable such that said air inflatable membrane can be deflated for shipping and inflated on-site for use.

30 8. The slide of claim 2 wherein said durable sheeting layer comprises sheeting sized to lay upon and substantially fully cover said top surface.

- 5 9. The slide of claim 2 wherein said durable sheeting material comprises
a surface membrane permanently adhered to said base.
- 10 10. The slide of claim 1 wherein said low friction durable sheeting layer
comprises a member selected from the group consisting of nylon, Teflon, sailcloth,
10 Dacron, vinyl, artificial turf, synthetic carpet and polyester resins.
11. The slide of claim 1 wherein bumpers or rails are employed along said
top surface to minimize risk of a user inadvertently falling from said slide.
- 15 12. The slide of claim 1 wherein said top surface is provided with moguls
to provide said top surface with an uneven contour.
13. The slide of claim 1 wherein areas of high friction are provided on said
top surface.
- 20 14. The slide of claim 13 wherein said areas of high friction are provided
at the beginning and at the end of the low friction durable sheeting layer to assist
the user in remaining at a fixed location at the top of the slide and for slowing
forward movement at the bottom of the slide.
- 25 15. The slide of claim 13 wherein said areas of high friction are positioned
along said top surface to present to a user, areas of high and low friction as the
user traverses said slide.
- 30 16. The slide of claim 1 wherein means are provided for introducing water
to said top surface.

- 5 17. The slide of claim 16 wherein said means for providing the introduction of water to said top surface comprises a water pump.
18. The slide of claim 1 wherein a bungee is supported proximate said slide.
- 10 19. The slide of claim 1 wherein a zip line is elevated above said slide.
20. The slide of claim 1 wherein at least one rail is positioned along said top surface sized and positioned to enable a user to optionally slide upon said rail as the usage traverses said slide.
- 15 21. The slide of claim 20 wherein said rail is substantially covered with a low friction, durable sheeting layer.
- 20 22. The slide of claim 5 wherein said base is constructed to enable said slide to float in a body of water.
23. A sliding activity center comprising in combination:
- 25 a. A slide for supporting a user, said slide having a slide top surface, at least a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity induced sliding, said slide top surface being characterized as having a low friction durable sheeting layer which enables the user to traverse thereon whether said top surface is wet or dry; and
- 30 b. an appended activity section having an activity section top surface positioned such that a user can transition between said slide and said appended activity section while traversing between said slide top surface and said activity center top surface.

24. The sliding activity center of claim 23 wherein said slide top surface is supported by a base, a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity induced sliding on said slide top surface.

10 25. The sliding activity center of claim 23 wherein said activity section top surface is supported by an activity section base of a construction to facilitate user induced bouncing motion thereon.

15 26. The sliding activity center of claim 23 wherein said activity section comprises a trampoline.

27. The sliding activity center of claim 24 wherein said base of said slide comprises an air inflatable membrane.

20 28. The sliding activity center of claim 25 wherein said activity center base comprises an air inflatable membrane.

29. The slide of claim 27 further comprising an air blower for maintaining inflation of said membrane.

25 30. The sliding activity center of claim 23 wherein said durable sheeting material comprises sheeting sized to lay upon and substantially cover said slide top surface.

30 31. The sliding activity center of claim 23 wherein said durable sheeting material comprises a surface membrane permanently adhered to said sliding base.

5 32. The sliding activity center of claim 26 further comprising at least one ramp appended to said trampoline for receiving a user exiting from said trampoline.

10 33. The sliding activity center of claim 32 wherein said ramp is provided with a ramp top surface supported by a base, a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity induced sliding upon said ramp top surface.

15 34. The sliding activity center of claim 33 wherein said slide, trampoline and ramp are selectively detachable from one another to facilitate shipment of said sliding activity center and to enable a user to interchange various component parts of said sliding activity center to enhance its flexibility.

20 35. The sliding activity center of claim 32 wherein said ramp comprises a ramp base having a ramp top surface of a low friction, durable sheeting layer enabling the user to transverse thereon whether said ramp top surface is wet or dry.

25 36. The sliding activity center of claim 23 wherein said activity section comprises at least one rail sized and positioned to enable a user to optimally slide upon said rail as said user transverses said activity center.

 37. The sliding activity center of claim 33 wherein the angle of inclination between said trampoline and said ramp top surface is adjustable.

30 38. A sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device comprising a sports vehicle, being of sufficient size and rigidity to support a user, said sports vehicle having a top for contacting the user and a bottom for sliding upon a slide, said slide having a top surface, said top surface being characterized as having low

5 friction, durable sheeting layer which enables a user to traverse thereon whether
said top surface is wet or dry.

39. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 38
wherein said sports vehicle is provided with a low friction, durable sheeting layer
10 appended to and supported by the bottom of said vehicle.

40. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 38
wherein at least a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity induced sliding
on said top surface.

15 41. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 38
wherein said sports vehicle is a commercially available sports board modified for
use herein.

20 42. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 38
wherein said sports vehicle is one created for use herein.

43. The sliding exercise and recreational device of claim 41 wherein said
commercially available sports vehicle has been modified by the removal of any
25 sharp edges which could cause damage to said top surface.

44. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 41
wherein said commercially available sports vehicle has been modified by removal of
any fins which could cause damage to said top surface.

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5 45. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 41 wherein said commercially available sports vehicle has been modified by applying to the bottom surface of said sports vehicle a durable, low friction sheeting layer.

10 46. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 38 wherein said sports vehicle is a non-commercially available sports vehicle produced and dedicated for use with said slide.

15 47. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 46 wherein said sports vehicle comprises a rigid core supporting on its bottom surface a durable, low friction sheeting layer.

20 48. The sliding exercise apparatus of claim 38 wherein said vehicle is a member selected from the group consisting of roller skates, roller blades, skateboards, skis, water skis, sleds, air mats, rubber/foam mats, body boards, skim boards, knee boards, wake boards, ice skates, surfboards, snowboards, mountain boards, sand boards, sail boards, snow luge, street luge, knee pads, elbow pads, wrist guards, clothes, suits, shoes, socks, plush vehicles, plush animals, plush objects, scooters, bikes, tricycles, snowmobiles, spheres, discs, sheets, bags and cases.

25 49. The sliding exercise apparatus of claim 38 wherein each of said low friction durable sheeting layers comprises a member selected from the group consisting of nylon, Texlon, sailcloth, Dacron, vinyl, artificial turf, synthetic carpet and polyester resins.

5 50. The sliding exercise apparatus of claim 38 wherein said top surface of
said slide is supported by a base, a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity
induced sliding on said top surface.

10 51. The sliding exercise apparatus of claim 50 wherein said base
comprises an air inflatable membrane.

15 52. The sliding exercise apparatus of claim 38 wherein proximate said top
surface of said slide includes at least one magnet and said sports vehicle includes
at least one magnet positioned to repel said at least one magnet proximate the
surface of said slide.

20 53. A sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device comprising the
combination of a sports board for supporting a user and a sliding activity center
upon which said sports board is intended to traverse, the sliding activity center
comprising a slide for supporting a user, said slide having a slide top surface, said
slide top surface being characterized as having a low friction durable sheeting layer
which enables a user on said sports board to traverse thereon whether the top
surface is wet or dry and an appended activity section having an activity section
top surface joined to said slide and positioned such that a user on said sports
25 board can transition from said slide to said appended activity section while
traversing between said slide top surface and said activity section top surface.

30 54. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 53
wherein said sports board is a commercially available sports board modified for use
herein.

 55. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 53
wherein said sports board is one created for use herein.

56. The sliding exercise and recreational device of claim 54 wherein said commercially available sports board has been modified by the removal of any sharp edges which could cause damage to said top surface.

57. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 54 wherein said commercially available sports board has been modified by removal of any fins which could cause damage to said top surface.

58. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 54 wherein said commercially available sports board has been modified by applying to the bottom surface of said sports board a durable, low friction sheeting layer.

59. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 53 wherein said sports board is a non-commercially available sports board produced and dedicated for use with said slide.

60. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 59 wherein said sports board comprises a rigid core supporting on its bottom surface a durable, low friction sheeting layer.

61. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 53 in which the appended activity section comprises a trampoline.

62. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 53 wherein said slide top surface is supported by a base, a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity induced sliding on said slide top surface.

5 63. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 53
wherein said activity section top surface is supported by an activity center base of
a construction to facilitate user induced bouncing motion thereon.

 64. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 63
10 wherein said slide comprises an air inflatable membrane.

 65. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 63
wherein said activity section base comprises an air inflatable membrane.

15 66. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 53
further comprising at least one ramp acting as an element of said activity section.

 67. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 66
wherein said ramp is provided with a ramp top surface supported by a base, a
20 portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity induced sliding upon said ramp top
surface.

 68. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 67
further comprising a trampoline wherein said slide, trampoline and ramp are
25 selectively detachable from one another to facilitate shipment of said sliding
exercise apparatus and recreational device and to enable a user to interchange
various component parts of said sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device
to enhance its flexibility.

30 69. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 67
wherein said ramp comprises a ramp base having a ramp top surface of a low
friction, durable sheeting layer enabling the user to transverse thereon whether
said ramp surface is wet or dry.

70. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 68 wherein said angle of inclination between said trampoline and said ramp top surface is adjustable.

10 71. A sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device comprising, in combination, a slide, said slide having a top surface, at least a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity induced sliding thereon, said top surface being further characterized as having low friction, durable sheeting layer which enables a user to traverse thereon both when said top surface is wet and dry and a membrane of
15 low friction, durable sheeting for supporting a user as said user traverses the top surface of said slide wherein said top surface and membrane are designed to contact one another for sliding upon said top surface.

20 72. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 71 wherein said membrane and top surface comprise a member selected from the group consisting of nylon, Texlon, sailcloth, Dacron, vinyl, artificial turf, synthetic carpet and polyester resins.

25 73. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 71 wherein said base comprises an air inflatable membrane.

74. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 73 wherein said slide is portable such that said air inflatable membrane can be deflated for shipping and inflated on-site for use.

30 75. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 71 wherein said durable sheeting layer comprises sheeting sized to lay upon and substantially fully cover said top surface.

76. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 71 wherein said durable sheeting layer is permanently adhered to said base.

10 77. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 71 wherein said slide is appended to an activity section such that a user, supported by said membrane, can transition between said slide top surface and said activity as said user employs said sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device.

15 78. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 77 wherein said activity section is of a construction to facilitate user induced bouncing motion.

20 79. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 78 wherein said activity section comprises a trampoline.

80. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 78 further comprising at least one ramp appended to said activity section for receiving a user exiting from said activity section.

25 81. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 80 wherein said ramp is inclined from said activity section to facilitate gravity induced sliding thereon.

30 82. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 81 wherein the angle of inclination between said activity section and said ramp is adjustable.

5 83. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 71
 wherein said membrane comprises a sheet of low friction, durable sheeting material
 upon which a user resides as said user traverses said slide top surface.

 84. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 71
10 wherein said membrane comprises at least one patch adhered to said user.

 85. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 84
 wherein said at least one patch is adhered to the feet of the user.

15 86. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 84
 wherein said at least one patch is adhered to the knees of the user.

 87. The slide of claim 1 further including a zip line suspended from said
 top surface and a bungee cord appended to said zip line for releasable attachment
20 to a user of said slide.

 88. The slide of claim 1 wherein means are provided for introducing snow
 and ice to said top surface.

 89. A sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device comprising in
 combination a riding element being of sufficient size to support a user, said riding
25 element being configured for riding along a slide, and a slide having a top surface,
 at least a portion of which is inclined to facilitate gravity induced sliding on the top
 surface.

5 90. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 89
wherein said riding element comprises a rigid board with at least one wheel for
contacting said top surface.

 91. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 89
wherein said riding element comprises an inflated or padded sphere with an
10 opening for accepting a user.

 92. The sliding exercise apparatus and recreational device of claim 91
when said inflated sphere includes an inner surface and is provided with a
continuous membrane of durable, low friction sheeting layer on said inner surface.

 93. A method of sliding comprising extending a dry membrane of low
15 friction durable sheeting material upon a surface and sliding upon said dry
membrane along at least a portion thereof.

 94. The method of claim 93 wherein at least a portion of said surface is
inclined to facilitate gravity-induced sliding thereon.

 95. The method of claim 93 wherein said low friction durable sheeting
20 material is bound to a supporting membrane.

 96. The method of claim 94 wherein said membrane is inflated with air
prior to sliding.

 97. The method of claim 94 wherein said membrane is stuffed with a
member selected from the group consisting of foam and rubber.

5 98. The method of claim 93 wherein multiple sections of membrane are
joined end to end or side to side prior to sliding.

 99. The method of claim 93 wherein a vehicle is employed for sliding
upon said dry membrane.

 100. The method of claim 99 wherein said vehicle is sized to support a user
10 during sliding and is provided with at least one surface of a low friction durable
coating.

 101. The method of claim 93 wherein said low friction durable sheeting
material has written indicia printed thereon.